

MINUTES

OF THE
ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH
ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE

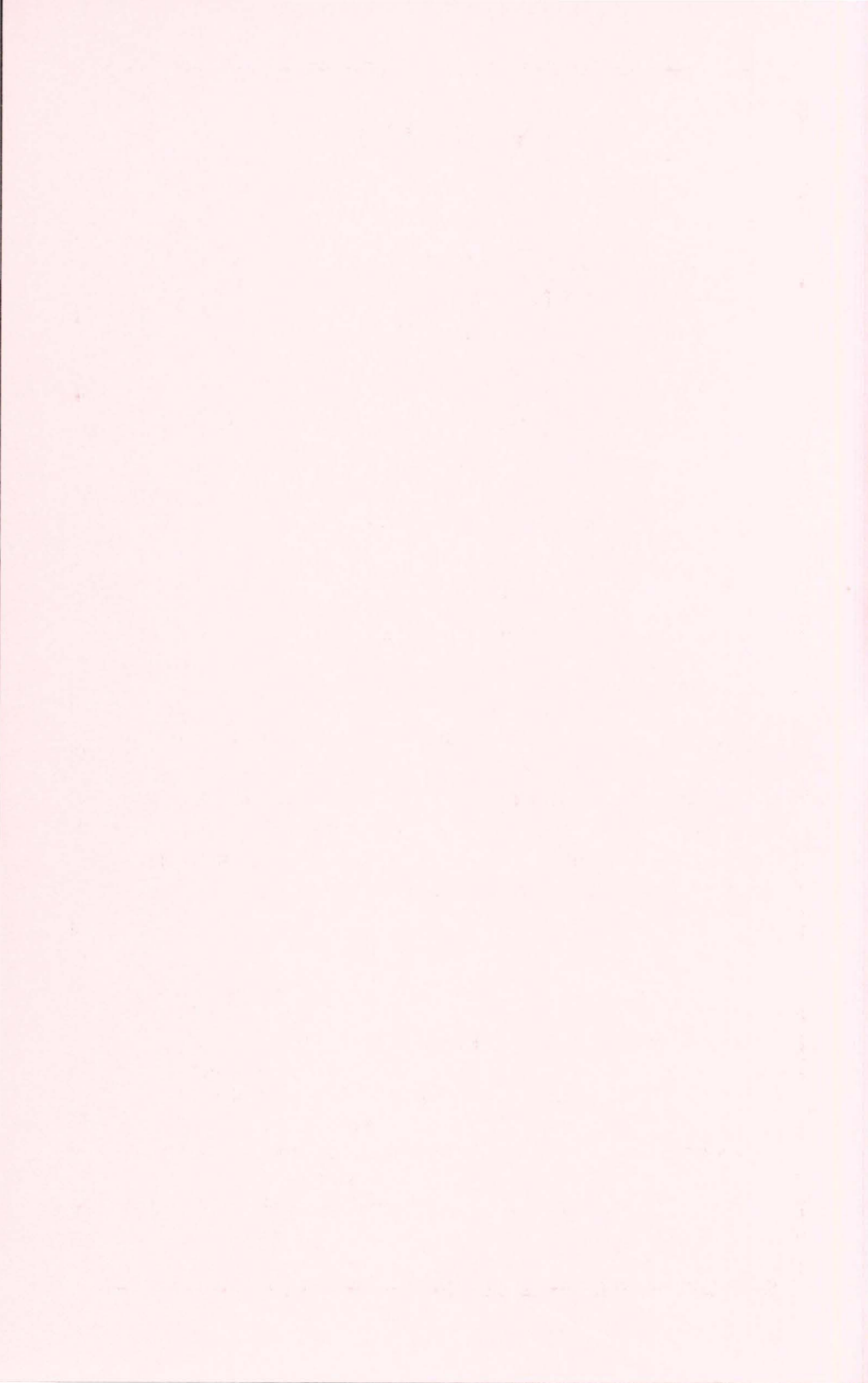
French Broad Association of the Free Will Baptists

Held at the Mt. O'Dale Church
Embreeville, Tennessee
August 7, 8, 9, 1997

Next session of the French Broad Association of Free Will Baptists will be held with the Faith Free Will Baptist Church at Black Mountain, North Carolina beginning on Thursday before the second Sunday in August, 1998. Rev. David Greene is scheduled to preach the Introductory Sermon at 11 A.M. Rev. James Rice will be the alternate.

OFFICERS

Moderator.....Howard Wheeler, 51 Wheeler Hill
Road, Canton, NC 28716
Vice Moderator.....Rev. Robert Stiles, 14 Rayton Heights,
Waynesville, NC
Clerk.....Mrs. Gerald Wheeler, 91 Daniel's Creek
Road, Canton, NC 28716
Assistant Clerk.....Katherine Rice, 28 Brooks Cove Rd.,
Black Mountain, NC 28711
Historian.....Iona Gregg, 109 Lester Road,
Jonesborough, TN 37659



CHURCH

PASTORS

DRY BRANCH

Rev. Arnold Revis, 260 Pickens Road, Weaverville, NC 28787

ERNESTVILLE

Rev. Herman Ledford, 310 Crosswhite Lane, Erwin, TN 37650

FAITH

Rev. Keith Mosley, 90 Cassada Road, Marshall, NC 28753

GRACE

Rev. Stewart Vess, Route 2, Box 246P, Old Fort, NC 28762

GREGGS CHAPEL

Rev. Gene Riddle, Rt. 1, Box 278, Flag Pond, TN 37657

HYATT CREEK

Rev. Robert Stiles, 85 Raytown Heights, Waynesville, NC 28786

MT. O'DALE

Rev. David Greene, 227 Berry Ridge Rd., Jonesborough, TN 37659

ROCKY BRANCH

Rev. George Plemmons, Lindsey Rd., Clyde, NC 28721

UNION VALLEY

Rev. Marvin Ponder, Weaverville, NC 28787

FRENCH BROAD ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Minutes of the 119th Annual Session of the French Broad Association of Free Will Baptists held at the Mt. O'Dale Church, Embreeville, Tennessee, August 7, 8, 9, 1997. Beginning on Thursday, August 7, 1997 at 10 A.M.

Opening Song:.....“Just A Little Talk With Jesus”
Welcome and Devotion:.....Rev. David Greene
Scripture:.....Phillipians 2: 1-8
Prayer:.....Rev. Eugene Duyck

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Moderator.....Howard Wheeler, Canton, NC
Vice-Moderator.....Rev. Robert Stiles, Waynesville, NC
Clerk.....Mrs. Gerald Wheeler, Canton, NC
Assistant Clerk.....Katherine Rice, Black Mountain, NC
Historian.....Iona Gregg, Jonesborough, TN

APPOINTMENT OF READING CLERKS

Rev. J. B. Rhinehart.....Rev. David Wheeler

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Old Ministers Fund.....Howard Wheeler
Minute Fund.....Rev. Randy Bolden

Rev. J. B. Rhinehart moderated the election.
The moderator read “Rules of Decorum.” Appointment of Investigating Committee: Rev. David Wheeler, Rev. Randy Bolden, and Rev. Arnold Revis, Rev. J. B. Rhinehart.

Visiting Ministers welcomed were Rev. Burl Ledford, Rev. Stewart Vess Rev. J.W. Mann and Rev. Mike Lamb

Note: Churches, please make checks for the minute fund to the clerk, Mrs. Gerald Wheeler, so there will be no problem cashing them. (Oveda Wheeler’s phone number is 704/235-8497).

11:00 A. M. SERVICE

Special Singing.....Mark and Patty Atkinson

Sermon:.....Rev. Raymond Shell

Scripture:.....II Kings 4: 1-7

We stood and thanked God for the message.

Fellowship handshake with Bro. Shell.

Rev. Mike Lamb dismissed and asked the blessing for the food.

1:30 P. M. SERVICE

Song:....."I Must Tell Jesus"

Devotion:.....Rev. Burl Ledford

Scripture:.....II Chorinthians 6: 14-18

Prayer:.....Rev. Randy Bolden

Delegates were seated and Church letters were read.

Special Singing:.....Kathy Riddle , Stewart and Melisa Vess.

Adjorned

7:00 P.M. SERVICE

Song:....."How Beautiful Heaven Must Be"

Prayer:.....Rev. Bud Parkens

Special Singing:.....Greene Family with Dewayne Riddle.

Calvin and Diane Lester with David Greene

Sermon:.....Rev. Junior Briggs

Scripture:.....Nehemiah 1: 11

Alter of prayer for those in need.

Handshake with Bro. Briggs.

CHURCHES AND DELEGATES

DRY BRANCH:.....Rev. and Mrs. Arnold Revis, Amy Plemmons,

ERNESTVILLE:.....Rev. Bobby Waddle, Rev. and Mrs. Hermon
Ledford.

FAITH:Sammie Finley, Katherine Rice, Raymond Shell,
James Rice.

GRACE:.....Mr. and Mrs. Howard Wheeler, Oveda Wheeler,
Kim Shuford, Rita Ann Shuford, Mr. and Mrs.
David Wheeler, Vernell Shuford, Mr. and Mrs

Randy Bolden.

GREGGS CHAPEL:.....Iona Gregg, Angela Peters.

HYATT CREEK:.....Rev. Robert Stiles, Rev. and Mrs. Mark Atkinson, Peggy Stiles.

MT. O'DALE:.....Rev. David Greene, Charles Miller, Amos Hensley, James Blevins.

ROCKY BRANCH:.....By Letter

UNION VALLEY:.....By Letter

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Arrangements:.....A Standing Committee, Pastor and Delegates

Young People's Work:Janie Revis, Peggy Bolden

Sunday Schools:.....Rev. Robert Stiles, Sammie Finley

Pastors Support:Rev. Randy Bolden, Rev. Bobby Waddle

Lord's Day Observance:Rev. Jerry Jarvis, Rev. David Greene

Marriage and Divorce:.....Rev. James Rice, Rev. Raymond Shell

Old Ministers Fund:.....A Standing Committee, Howard Wheeler,
Chairman

Deeper Devotion:.....A Standing Committee, written by W. W. Ballard, deceased

Obituaries:A Standing Committee, Mrs. Raymond Shell, Nell Shuford, Mrs. Archie Rice and Geneva Thomas

Resolutions:Rev. David Wheeler, Rev. J. B. Rhinehart

Finance:.....A Standing Committee

Temperance:Rev. Arnold Revis, Rev. Mark Atkinson

Periodicals:.....Kim Shuford, Rita Ann Shuford

Sessions:.....First delegate of each church

Field Evangelist:.....Rev. Raymond Shell , 111 Daugherty Street, Black Mountain, NC, 28711
Phone: (704) 669-2622

Investigating Committee:.....Rev. Randy Bolden, Rev. David Wheeler, Rev. Arnold Revis, Rev. J. B. Rhinehart

FRIDAY 10:00 A.M. SERVICE

Song:....."We'll Soon Be Done With Troubles And Trials"
Special prayer for one in need.

Welcome and Devotion:.....Rev. David Greene

Scripture:.....I Thess. 4: 1-8

Prayer:.....Rev. Randy Bolden

Visiting Ministers:.....Rev. Burl Ledford, Rev. Larry Ledford

Special prayer for Cameron Bolden.

11:00 A. M. SERVICE

Sermon:.....Rev. Arnold Revis
 Scripture:.....Psalms 122:1, Genesis 18:1-8
 Handshake with Bro. Revis.
 Rev. Eugene Duyck dismissed and asked blessing for food.

1:30 P. M. SERVICE

Song:.....Stewart and Melisa Vess
 Devotion:.....Rev. Randy Bolden
 Scripture:.....II Corinthians 4:16-18
 Prayer to thank God for answering prayer by David Greene.
 Mrs. Greene, Mrs. Gregg and Mrs. Davis to receive check from Old
 Ministers Fund.
 Showed appreciation to Mt O'Dale Church for receiving Association.

Rev. Bobby Waddle dismissed the Association.

7:00 P. M. SERVICE

Song:....."In The Sweet Forever"
 Prayer:.....Rev. Raymond Shell
 Special Singing:.....Larry Ledford and Family, Jason Cook,
 Cook Children.

Special prayer for a lost loved one.

Song:....."Power In The Blood"
 Sermon:.....Rev. David Wheeler
 Scripture:.....Isaiah 53
 Alter of prayer. Prayer for Kathy Riddle.
 Handshake with Bro. David Wheeler.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Young People's Work: We, your committee, believe that in order to have young people interested in church today, the elder ones should live daily by the Word, therefore, setting an example for them. "Ye are the light of the world" and when we bid them come they should see Christ in us and the true love of God. "Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: Bind them about thy neck, write them upon the table of thine heart" Prov. 3:3; "But as it is written, eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." I Cor 2:9; "For things of this world shall pass away and pleasure is

just for a season but the joy of living for the Lord is everlasting” Young people are much needed in our churches today for they are the church of tomorrow. Older ones need to encourage the younger ones and give testimonies of experiences and faith. I Timothy 4:12 says, “Let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an example of the believers in the Word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.” We would like to encourage the young people to do likewise as the Bible teaches: to obey your parents, remember Thy Creator in the days of thy youth, hear the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding, trust in the Lord and keep His commandments. We would encourage both young women and young men to guard their virtue carefully as a precious gift. Proverbs 31:2 & 3 and Proverbs 31:10-12. We would urge each young person to seek the will of God concerning their lives and be led of His Spirit. John 14:26 reads, “But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance whatsoever I have said unto you.”

Paul exhorted Timothy to “hold faith and a good conscience” and to “stir up the gift of God which is in thee by the putting on of hands.” Read also Titus 2 and I & II Timothy also Psalms 90: 12-14.

Janie Revis, Peggy Bolden

Sunday Schools: We, your committee, believe that all our teachers first be Christians, that they should “Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” II Timothy 2: 15. “And the servant of the Lord must not strive, but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves;” II Timothy 2: 24-25. We, believe that teaching is a gift of God. Teachers should teach as the Spirit gives them utterance. Our teachers are to use only the authorized King James version of the Holy Bible to teach from.

Rev. Robert Stiles, Sammie Finley

Pastors Support: We, your committee, believe in pastors support both spiritually and naturally. Pastors are keepers of sheep, and we as sheep being led of the Holy Spirit, elected our pastors with God as a witness, to feed us God’s word. They deserve our undivided attention while preaching to us, as well as our sincere prayers and backing. Most of all that we be doers and not just hearers which will encourage and support them in knowing that their labor isn’t in vain. We also need to study God’s word more diligently, in doing so, we can support and sanction the word of God with understanding, being in one mind and one accord with him and each other. We are all workers together with God. As for the natural needs, we realize

the high cost of living and traveling expenses and we make the following recommendations: First that our pastors strive to give reasonable time to their pastoral duties. Second, that our churches make it possible for their pastor to give as much of their time as possible to the cause of Christ by giving them support. Luke 10:7 says, "the laborer is worthy of his hire." We have not given until we go above the tenth that the Lord requires, also there are twenty four hours in a day. Two hours and forty minutes is a tenth of our time for the Lord. We recommend that all members bring their tithe and offerings as God has prospered them into the storehouse as it is the sacred duty of each member to support their pastor. God loves a Cheerful giver, so let us give all that we give with charity from our hearts. We believe that our support should not only be in the form of money, but that we as workers together with God and each other should do our part of the visiting and other work of the church instead of expecting the pastor to do it all for us.

Rev. Randy Bolden, Rev. Bobby Waddle

Lord's Day Observance: We, your committee on Lord's Day Observance, feel it is one of the most important things in life to observe the Lord's Day. We feel that God needs to be honored for every day that we live. Psalm 118:24 reads "This is the day the Lord hath made, we will rejoice and be glad in it." However, we know that God has set aside and ordained a special day to be revered and observed in all sincerity of our hearts. We believe that man has rearranged the days to suit himself. We still feel that God has set aside Sunday as the Sabbath Day. Genesis 2:2,3 "And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it; because that in it He had rested from all his work which God created and made." Exodus 20:8-11, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." Isaiah 56:2, "Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the Son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it and keepeth his hand from doing any evil." Therefore we recommend that everyone of us put aside our daily cares in life in order to reverence the Holy day of the Lord. Deut. 5:12

Rev. David Greene, Rev. Jerry Jarvis

Marriage and Divorce: We protest against parents giving permits for children under lawful age. We also protest against marriages of persons who are unfit to care for a family. There is only one Biblical cause for divorce. We will not allow our ministers to officiate at the marriage of any divorced persons. We will not ordain or license ministers who have two living wives. Read Mark 10: 1-12, Luke 16: 16-18.

Rev. Raymond Shell , Rev. James Rice

Old Ministers Board: A Standing Committee, Howard Wheeler, Treasurer; David Shuford. See Old Ministers Fund Amendment: We recommend that the Old Ministers and Board of the French Broad Free Will Baptist Association be governed by the following (1) That at the age of sixty-five (65) our ministers if unable to support our insurance at their own request, be relieved of their obligation. (2) That our local ministers cooperate with our local board in every way possible.

Rev. Warren Reece, Rev. W. O. Adcock, Rev. G. Y. Burgin.

Deeper Devotion: Spirituality is the life and power of religion of Jesus Christ. The vocation of religion is devoted to God. Devotion is shown by the consecration to God. Therefore, we urged our preachers to deeper spirituality. The Holy Spirit in His office work does a complete work. If we are submissive, we must be anointed by the Holy One. So to undertake to preach without this power is to be disappointed than to undertake to preach when the Holy Spirit does not speak in us. We know when this Holy Spirit teaches a full Gospel, holy life and salvation from sin. He testifies of Christ and brings His remembrance and guides us into all truth. A standing committee, written by W. W. Ballard, deceased.

Obituaries: We, your committee, feel that we should continue to honor our dead by printing their pictures and obituaries in the minutes. In Proverbs 10:7 we read "The memory of the just is blessed." The saints of God who have gone on to their reward will remain in our memory until we join them. "And I heard a voice from Heaven saying unto me, write, blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; yea, said the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." Revelations 14:13.

Mrs. Raymond Shell, Nell Shuford, Geneva Thomas,
Katherine Rice. A standing committee.

Resolutions: We your committee feel that every Christian has an obligation to God and to our fellow man to live sober and righteous. Ecc. 12:13 "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter. Fear God and keep his commandments for this is the whole duty of man." Matt. 22:37-39, "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thy shalt love thy neighbor as thy self.", We believe that our lives seasoned with the spirit of God is the greatest witness and hope for this world today. Gal. 6:2 "Bear ye one anothers burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." 1 John 3:18, "My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in

truth." We recommend that we all as members of the body of Christ, be encouraged to seek a greater dedicated commitment to God, to our churches and to the association. That Jesus Christ might be lifted up in our lives before a sinful world.

Rev. David Wheeler, Rev. J. B. Rhinehart

Temperance: We, your committee on temperance recommend prohibition of all intoxicating beverages and improper use of drugs, and any other substance that renders the mind incapable of sober thinking or leads to improper conduct. Parents, teach your children that we are not to defile the temple of the Holy Ghost. For it is written in 1 Cor. 6: 19 and in Matthew 15: 11. "Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man." Temperance is to be exercised in all things. We recommend that all parents teach and warn their children of the dangers involved when temperance is neglected in their lives. We encourage Churches and parents to hold fast the Bible standards of proper dress, modest apparel. Recommended reading:

Proverbs 20:1, I Cor. 6:10, I Cor. 9:25,
Titus 2:2-6, I Tim. 2:9, I Peter 3:3-4

Rev. Arnold Revis, Rev. Mark Atkinson

Periodicals: We, your committee, advise you to read the Bible for the Bible says in II Timothy 3:1, "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come." We believe that they are here now. The Lord left His Word for us to live by. We believe the only Bible we should read and live by is the Authorized King James Version. In Matthew 24:4, "And Jesus answered and said unto them, 'Take heed that no man deceive you.' Galatians 1: 8, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.", Galatians 6:7-8, "Be not deceived God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting," The word of the Lord is the most precious thing we have. It is the best guideline to teach our children by. Psalm 119:103-105, "How sweet are Thy words unto my taste. Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth. Through Thy precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." In the book of Joel it speaks of the word of the Lord as to tell ye your children of it, and let your children tell their children and their children another generation. I have esteemed the words of His mouth

more than my necessary food. Job 23: 12, Phil. 4:8

Kim Shuford, Rita Ann Shuford

Church Businesses: We recommend that an election be announced three times before the election.

II. A moderator who is an active member and in good fellowship with the church should be elected to carry out the business of the election.

III. Those who will be eligible to vote shall be active members who are in good fellowship with all the church. No person who is not a member of the body shall be eligible to vote, neither members who are not active in church work.

Rev. James Rice, Amos Hensley

Church Letters: We, your committee, recommend the following:

Any church requesting a letter from the Association is asked to be represented in person before the body at its annual session and make the request. If not represented the Association will automatically drop them from the church roll.

Rev. Rosco Briggs, Jr., Rev. Walter Wilson, Rev. Roy Waldrop

Duties of your Field Evangelist: 1. Visit all churches in the Association if possible. 2. To assist in every way possible when a church doesn't have a pastor, as the Lord leads to give advice or help in any way. 3. Help all churches as much as possible. 4. Take a love offering for your Field Evangelist. He is your friend. He loves you.

Rev. Lawrence Smith, Howard Wheeler, Rev. J. B. Rhinehart

Guidelines for the Investigating Committee: Churches under the watchcare of the Association should be visited during the year. A preacher after having been licensed should be visited at least once during the year. Be of assistance to the Association at any time of confusion in any of the churches of the Association.

Eugene Thomas, Rev. Russell Wheeler, Rev. Floyd Watts.

Sessions: The next Session of the French Broad Association will be held with Faith Church at Black Mountain, North Carolina beginning on Thursday before the second Sunday in August 1998 at 10 A.M. The Rev. David Greene is scheduled to preach the Introductory Sermon at 11 A.M. The Rev. James Rice will be the alternate.

CLERKS FOR NEXT YEAR

- DRY BRANCH:..... Mrs. Yvonne Ramsey, 140 Snelson Road,
Marshall, NC, 28753
- ERNESTVILLE:.....Rebecca Casey, 310 Crosswhite Lane,
Erwin, Tennessee 37650
- FAITH:.....Susie Hollifield, 100 9th St., Black Mountain, NC
28711
- GRACE:.....David Shuford, Rt. 1, Box 378-D, Fletcher, NC
28732
- GREGGS CHAPEL:.....Brenda Peters, 104 Clark Drive, Johnson City, TN
37601
- HYATT CREEK:.....Jessie Ann Gunter, 286 Log Cabin Road,
Waynesville, NC 28786
- MT. O'DALE:Mary Hensley, 407 A. J. Willis Rd., Jonesborough,
TN, 37659
- ROCKY BRANCH:Leona Goodson, 315 Little Cove Road,
Waynesville, NC, 28786
- UNION VALLEY:.....Ann Holder, 156 Mundy Cove Rd., Weaverville,
NC, 28787

REVIVALS AND COMMUNIONS

- DRY BRANCH:Revivals 1; Rev. J.B. Rhinehart, Rev. Eugene
Osborne; Communion 0.
- ERNESTVILLE:Revivals 2; Rev. Coy Wheeler, Rev. Mark
Atkinson, Rev. Eugene Osborne; Communion 5.
- FAITH: Revivals 0; Communion 2.
- GRACE: Revivals 1; Rev. Mike Lamb; Communion 1.
- GREGGS CHAPEL: Revivals 1; Rev. Coy Wheeler; Communion 1.
- HYATT CREEK:Revivals 1; Rev. Raymond Shell; Communion 1.
- MT. O'DALE:Revivals 2; Rev. Keith Mosley, Rev. Stewart Vess,
Rev. Burl Ledford, Rev. Russell Wheeler;
Communion 4.
- ROCKY BRANCH:..... Revivals 1; Rev. Larry Sprouse; Communion 0.
- UNION VALLEY:Revivals 0; Communion 0.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORTS

- DRY BRANCH:.....Superintendent, Not elected; Secretary, Mrs.
Yvonne Ramsey, 140 Snelson Road, Marshall, NC
28753 Classes 4; Pupils 23; Literature Holy Bible
K.J.V..

- ERNESTVILLE:Superintendent, Aaron Waddle, 1866 S. Hwy. 81, Jonesborough, TN 37659; Secretary, Rebecca Casey, 310 crosswhite Lane, Erwin, TN 37650; Classes 1; Pupils 12; Literature, Bible.
- FAITH:Superintendent, Billy Cudd, 12 Harwood Road, Barnardsville, NC ; Secretary, Susie Hollifield, 100 9th St., Black Mountain, NC 28711; Classes 3; Pupils 39; Literature, Bible.
- GRACE:Superintendent, Dale Wheeler, 134 Jack Cove Road Canton, NC 28716; Secretary, Rita Ann Shuford, Rt.1, Box 378-D, Fletcher, NC 28732; Classes 4; Pupils 31; Literature, Bible.
- GREGGS CHAPEL:Superintendant, Bob Campbell, 258 Martin Road, Jonesborough, TN, 37659; Secretary, Brenda Peters, 104 Clark Drive, Johnson City, TN 37601; Classes 1; Pupils 14; Literature, Bible, KJV
- HYATT CREEK:Superintendent, Clyde Rhinehart, P. O. Box 284, Hazelwood, NC 28738; Secretary, Judy Pressley, 36 Brody Drive, Waynesville, NC 28786; Classes 3; Pupils 42; Literature, Holy Bible.
- MT. O'DALE:Superintendent, Robert Story, 680 Bumpus Cove Rd., Erwin, TN 37650; Secretary, Amos Hensley, 407 A. J. Willis Rd., Jonesborough, TN 37659; Classes 4; Pupils 70; Literature, Bible.
- ROCKY BRANCH:Superintendent, Jimmy Hoyle, 2535 Old Balsam Road, Waynesville, NC 28786; Secretary, Mary Joe Lewis, 1731 Chambers Mountain Rd., Clyde, NC 28721; Classes 4; Pupils 57; Literature, Bibles and felt art.
- UNION VALLEY:Superintendent, Jack Ballew, Wearville, NC 28787; Secretary, Francis Fortner, Weaverville, NC 28787; Classes 2; Pupils 20; Literature Bible.

FRENCH BROAD FREE WILL BAPTIST
MINISTERS' CONFERENCE
AUGUST 1996- AUGUST 1997

The French Broad Free Will Baptist Ministers' Conference met with Gregg's Chapel Church, Jonesborough, TN on Saturday, September 28, 1996 at 10 A.M.

Opening Song:.....“Rock Of Ages”

Welcome and Devotion:.....Rev. Gene Riddle, Pastor
Scripture:.....Acts 17:22-28
Prayer:.....Rev. Burl Ledford

The Moderator read the Constitution of the Ministers' Conference. Nineteen ministers answered the roll call. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Visiting ministers were: Rev. Hermon Ledford, Rev. Gene Riddle, Rev. Dean Metcalf. Next Conference will be held December 28, 1996 at Mt. O'Dale Church with Rev. Mark Atkinson preaching.

11 A.M. SERVICE

Song:....."We'll Work Til Jesus Comes"
Sermon:.....Rev. Larry Ledford
Scripture:.....Phil. 2:1-7, Ecc. 10:1, II Kings 5: 25-26
Fellowship handshake with Brother Ledford.
Song:.....Gerald Wheeler

1:15 P.M. SERVICE

Song:....."Take My Hand Precious Lord"
Devotion:.....Rev. Stewart Vess
Scripture:.....Romans 12: 1-2
Prayer:.....Rev. Raymond Shell

Showed appreciation to Gregg's Chapel Church for having the conference. Rev. Shell appointed to the ordaining council.

Special Singing and Testimonies:.....Stewart and Melisa Vess,
Gerald Wheeler, Patty Atkinson
Joe, Iona and Brenda sang
together.

Rev. Larry Coates welcomed back into Conference with fellowship handshake.
Adjourned

The French Broad Free Will Baptist Ministers' Conference met with the Mt. O'Dale Church, Embreeville, TN. on Saturday, December 28, 1996 at 10:00 A.M.

Opening Song:....."The Love Of God"

Welcome and Devotion:.....Rev. David Greene, Pastor
Scripture:.....I Timothy 4: 1-7
Prayer:.....Rev. Eugene Duyck

The Moderator read the Constitution of the Minister's Conference. Next Conference will be held at The Community Lighthouse, Marion, NC on March 29,1997 with Rev. David Greene scheduled to preach. Visiting Ministers were: Rev. Dewayne Riddle, Rev. Hermon Ledford. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Nineteen Ministers answered the roll call.

11 A.M. SERVICE

Song:.....“Amazing Grace”
Sermon:.....Rev. Mark Atkinson
Scripture:.....I Cor. 3: 6-11

Fellowship handshake with Bro. Atkinson.
Rev. Burl Ledford dismissed and asked blessing for food.

1:30 P.M. SERVICE

Devotion:.....Rev. Archie Cook
Scripture:.....Psalms 37: 1-8
Prayer:.....Rev. Mike Lamb

The congregation showed appreciation to Mt O'Dale Church for having the Conference. Rev. Shell appointed to serve on ordination council. Rev. Bob Campbell withdrew from Conference. Offering for David Foster's family who lost their possessions in a house fire (\$415.25).

Special Singing:.....Jordon Trio, Rita Ann
and Kimberly Shuford.

Rev. Stewart Vess was ordained. Rev. David Wheeler preached the ordination. Scripture: Luke 22: 31-32. Prayer led by Rev. Archie Cook. Handshake with Bro. Vess and his wife. Song by Rev. James Rice. Dismissed by Rev. Raymond Shell.

The French Broad Free Will Baptist Ministers' Conference met with The Community Lighthouse, Marion, NC on Saturday, March 29, 1997 at 10 A.M.

Song:.....“Amazing Grace”
Welcome and Devotion:.....Rev. Archie Cook, Pastor
Scripture:.....Psalms 103: 8-17
Prayer:.....Rev. Raymond Shell

The Moderator read the Constitution of the Ministers' Conference. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Eighteen Ministers answered the roll call. Visiting Ministers: Rev. Herman Ledford, Rev. Coy Wheeler, Rev. Keith Mosley, Rev. Terry Rice, Rev. Dewayne Riddle, Rev. Richard Carver. The next Conference will be at Grace Church in June, 1997. Rev. Raymond Shell is scheduled to preach.

11 A.M. SERVICE

Song:.....Rev. James Rice
Sermon:.....Rev. David Greene
Scripture:.....Malachi 1: 6-8

Handshake with Bro. Greene.

Singing:.....Rev. James Rice, Sister Vicie Ledford
Rev. Terry Rice dismissed and asked blessing for food.

1:50 P.M. SERVICE

Song:.....“Victory In Jesus”
Devotion:.....Rev. Terry Rice
Scripture:.....Acts 26: 1-7
Prayer:.....Rev. J.W. Mann

Showed appreciation to The Community Lighthouse for having the conference.

Special Singing:.....Margaret Jordan, Archie Cook family,
Gerald Wheeler.

Dismissed by Rev. Mike Lamb

The French Broad Free Will Baptist Ministers' Conference met with Grace Church, Canton, NC on Saturday June 28, 1997 at 10 A.M.

Opening Song:.....“I will Never Turn Back”
Welcome and Devotion:.....Rev. Stewart Vess, Pastor
Scripture:.....James 1: 1-6
Prayer:.....Rev. Calvin Lester

The Moderator read the Constitution of the Ministers' Conference. Visiting Ministers; Rev. Keith Mosley, Rev. Dewayne Riddle, Rev. Lynn Hensley, Rev. Terry Rice, Rev. Ross Hughes, Rev. Danny Hughes, Rev. Joe Houser. Minutes of last meeting were read and approved. Twenty Ministers answered the roll call.

11:00 A.M. Service

Special Singing:.....Terry and Beverly Rice, Young people present
Prayer:.....Rev. Eugene Duyck
Sermon:.....Rev. Raymond Shell
Scripture:.....Acts 5: 29-30, I Peter 1: 22-23, John 14: 25-26

Wonderful sermon. Rev. Lawrence Smith talked and praised Rev. Shell and Rev. T.A. Wheeler for staying the same over the years. Handshake with Bro. Shell and Bro. Wheeler.

Rev. J. W. Mann dismissed and asked blessing for food.

1:45 P. M. Service

Song:....."You Never Mentioned Him To Me"
Devotion:.....Rev. Jerry Jarvis
Scripture:.....John 1: 29-34
Prayer:.....Rev. Burl Ledford

Showed appreciation to Grace Church for having Conference.
Rev. J. B. Rhinehart appointed to serve on ordaining council.

Special Singing and Testimonies:.....Lisa Vess, Evelyn
Lamb, Gerald Wheeler, Rev. T. A. Wheeler

The Lord blessed at the end of the service. it was good to be there.
Dismissed by Rev. Mike Lamb

ANNUAL SESSION

The French Broad Free Will Baptist Ministers' Conference met with Mt. O'Dale Church, Embreeville, TN, on Saturday, August 9, 1997 at 10 A.M.

Opening Song:....."I Have Somebody With Me"
Welcome and Devotion:.....Rev. David Gteene, Pastor
Scripture:.....Phil. 3: 10-15
Prayer.....Rev. Mike Lamb

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Moderator:.....Rev. David Wheeler
Vice Moderator:.....Rev. David Greene
Secretary and Treasurer:.....Oveda Wheeler
Assistant:.....Katherine Rice
The election was moderated by Rev. James Rice.

Ordination Council:.....Rev. Burl Ledford, Rev. J. W. Mann,
Rev. Archie Cook, Rev. Larry Ledford,
Rev. James Rice.

The Moderator read the Constitution of the Ministers' Conference. Visiting Ministers; Rev. Terry Rice, Rev. Hermon Ledford, Rev. Bob Campbell, Rev. Joe Houser. Minutes of last meeting were read and approved. Twenty-four Ministers answered the roll call. A letter from Bro. Danny Redmon was read.

11:00 A.M. Service

Song:.....Cook Family
Special prayer for Linda Cook, Hermon Ledford's Son who is lost and other lost loved ones. Many testimonies. God blessed with a sweet spirit. Rev. James Rice, Terry and Beverly sang "In The Garden". Bro. Tim Burlson dismissed and asked blessing for food.

2:40 P. M. Service

Song:....."When We All Get To Heaven"
Devotion:.....Rev. Eugene Duyck
Scripture:.....Proverbs 23:23
Prayer:.....Rev. J. B. Rhinehart

Appreciation showed to Mt. O'Dale Church. Next Conference will be held with Dry Branch Church. Rev. J. B. Rhinehart is scheduled to preach.

Singing:.....Randy and Peggy Bolden, Cook children,
Calvin and Diane Lester

By-Law #18 was added by majority vote.
Adjorned

ANNUAL REPORT FOR OLD MINISTERS FUND

Beginning of year 1996-1997.....	\$1,804.38
Ministers Donations.....	491.00
Churches Donations.....	1,498.30
Love Offerings.....	2,048.00
 Total.....	 \$5,841.68
Paid out.....	3,300.24
Total in checking.....	\$2,541.44
 Total in savings.....	 \$10,705.89

Money sent in after August 12, 1997 will be on next years report. Howard Wheeler, 51 Wheeler Hill Road, Canton, NC 28716.

CHURCH DONATIONS

Dry Branch.....	100.00
Ernestville.....	25.00
Faith.....	200.00
Grace.....	395.80
Gregg's Chapel.....	50.00
Hyatt Creek.....	250.00
Mt. O'Dale.....	452.50
Rocky Branch.....	25.00
 Total.....	 \$1,498.30

LOVE OFFERINGS

Sister Raymond Shell.....	\$20.00
Mrs. Dorothy Payne.....	25.00
Mrs. Dorothy Payne (Memory of Rev. Walter Wilson).....	50.00
Elizabeth O'Kelly.....	100.00
Melton Haynes.....	50.00
Love Gift.....	1,803.00
Total.....	\$2,048.00

MINISTERS DONATIONS

Rev. Mark Atkinson.....	20.00
Rev. Randy Bolden.....	10.00

Rev. Junior Briggs.....	22.00
Rev. Larry Coates.....	20.00
Rev. Archie Cook.....	40.00
Rev. Eugene Duyck.....	10.00
Rev. David Greene.....	15.00
Rev. Jerry Jarvis.....	25.00
Rev. Mike Lamb.....	20.00
Rev. Burl Ledford.....	25.00
Rev. Larry Ledford.....	40.00
Rev. Calvin Lester.....	12.00
Rev. J. W. Mann.....	20.00
Rev. J. B. Rhinehart.....	25.00
Rev. James Rice.....	12.00
Rev. Raymond Shell.....	15.00
Rev. Jennis Sluder.....	20.00
Rev. Lawerence Smith.....	20.00
Rev. Robert Stiles.....	50.00
Rev. Stewart Vess.....	20.00
Rev. Bobby Waddle.....	10.00
Rev. David Wheeler.....	40.00
 Total.....	 \$491.00

PAID OUT

Mrs. Roxie Miller.....	\$384.00
Mrs. Ollie Hollifield.....	384.00
Mrs. Helen Wheeler.....	384.00
Mrs. Margaret Radcliffe.....	384.00
Mrs. Margie Pressley.....	384.00
Rev. T. A. Wheeler.....	384.00
Rev. Floyd Watts.....	384.00
 Total.....	 \$2,688.00

SICKNESS

Rev. J. B. Rhinehart.....	200.00
Rev. David Wheeler.....	200.00
Rev. Larry Ledford.....	200.00
 Total.....	 \$600.00

Service Charges from Bank.....\$12.24
Total paid out 1996-1997.....\$3,300.24

ADDRESSES

Mrs. Coy Davis, Route 1, Box 456, Green Mtn., NC 28740
Mrs. J. D. Greene, 118 Meadowview Circle, Jonesborough, TN 37659
Mrs. Iona Gregg, 109 Lester Road, Jonesborough, TN 37659
Mrs. Ollie Hollifield, 255 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711
Mrs. Roxie Miller, 800 Broyles Ave., Holiday House, Apt. 1A, Erwin,
TN 37650
Mrs. Margie Pressley, 107 N. Cotton Ave., Black Mountain, NC 28711
Mrs. Margaret Ratcliff, 857 Fletcher Martin, Alexander, NC 28701
Mrs. Helen Wheeler, P.O. Box 551, Swannanoa, NC 28778

ORDAINED MINISTERS REPORTS

Rev. Mark Atkinson: Sermons 45; Revivals 1; Conversions 2; Miles traveled
1,975; Total received \$285.00; Given \$350.00
Rev. Roscoe Briggs Jr.: Pastored 1; Revivals 3; Conversions 5; Sermons
86; Baptisted 4; Funerals 3; Received \$5,000.00; Given
\$200.00; Miles traveled 7000
Rev. Tim Burluson: Sermons 28; Baptisted 4
Rev. Archie Cook: Pastored 1; Sermons 70; Conversions 2; Revivals 1;
Funerals 1; Total received \$750.00
Rev. Eugene Duyck : Pastored 1; Received \$4,338.00
Rev. Jerry Jarvis: Funerals 2; Given 10%
Rev. Michael Lamb: Pastored 1; Funerals 2
Rev Burl Ledford: Pastored 1; Given 10%
Rev. Arnold Larry Revis: Pastored 1; Received \$2,106.58
Rev. James N. Rice: Pastored 1; Revivals 1; Members received 1; Miles
traveled 27,000
Rev. Robert Stiles: Pastored 1; Revivals 1; Funerals 1

- Rev. Calvin Lester: Revivals 3: Conversions 2: Preaching for the Lord.
- Rev. Arnold Larry Revis: Pastored 1; Received \$2348.80
- Rev. J. B. Rhinehart: Revivals 2: Sermons 25: Marriages 1: Funerals 5
- Rev. James N. Rice: Revivals 1; Funerals 1: Miles traveled 25,000
- Rev. Raymond Shell: Field Evangelist: Received \$533.15: Miles traveled 1,280
- Rev. Robert Stiles: Pastored 1; Members received 2: Baptisted 2: Funerals 2: Received \$2,600.00: Given 10%
- Rev. Stewart Vess: Pastored 1; Revivals 2; Conversions 1; Received \$5,915.96
- Rev. Robert Waddle: Sermons several; Helped at Ernestville and other places
- Rev. David Wheeler: Pastored 1; Revivals 1; Marriages 1: Funerals 1

ROLL CALL OF MINISTERS

Rev. Mark Atkinson, 97 Smokies Ridge, Waynesville, NC 28786
(704) 456-7278

Rev. Randy Bolden, 145 Smokies Ridge, Waynesville, NC 28786
(704) 456-3094

Rev. Roscoe Briggs, Jr., Rt. ⁸ ~~2~~, Box ⁷²⁹ ~~181~~, Burnsville, NC, 28714
(704) 675-4595

Rev. Tim Burlison, Rt. ⁸ ~~2~~, Box ⁷²⁹ ~~181~~, Burnsville, NC, 28714
(704) 675-5914

Rev. Larry Coates, 347 Paint Fork Rd., Barnardsville, NC 28709
(704) 626-2707

Rev. Danny Connor, 210 Page Rd., Waynesville, NC 28786
(704) 452-3668

Rev. Archie Cook, Rt. 5, Box 76, Marion, NC 28752
(704) 652-6734

Rev. Eugene Duyck, 572 Paint Fork Rd., Barnardsville, NC 28709
(704) 626-2995

Rev. David Greene, 227 Berry Ridge Rd., Jonesborough, TN 37659
(423) 753-7203

Rev. Jerry Jarvis, Box 158, Mundy Cove Rd., Weaverville, NC 28787
(704) 645-7812

Rev. Michael Lamb, 451 Horse Creek Rd., Chuckey, TN 37641
(423) 257-3323

Rev. Burl Ledford, 71 Bee Ridge Rd., Asheville, NC 28803
(704) 298-4128

Rev. Larry Ledford, 137 Spice Hollow Rd., Johnson City, TN 37604
(423) 928-5441

Rev. Calvin L. Lester, 398 New Hope Rd., Jonesborough, TN 37659
(423) 753-0748

Rev. J. W. Mann, Rt. 4, Marion, NC 28752
(704) 724-4732

Rev. Arnold Revis, 260 Pickens, Rd., Weaverville, NC 28787
(704) 645-7357

Rev. J. B. Rhinehart, P. O. Box 462, Hazelwood, NC
(704) 452-4470

Rev. James Rice, 106 Louisa St., Black Mountain, NC 28711
(704) 669-7572

Rev. Raymond Shell, 111 Daugherty St., Black Mountain, NC 28711
(704) 669-2622

Rev. Jennis Paul Sluder, 201 Murphy Hill Rd., Weaverville, NC 28787
(704) 645-7113

Rev. Lawrence E. Smith, 661 Old Mars Hill Hwy., Weaverville, NC
28787 (704) 645-7241

Rev. Robert Stiles, 85 Raytown Heights, Waynesville, NC 28786
(704) 456-6691

Rev. Stewart Vess, Route 2, Box 246P, Old Fort, NC 28762
(704) 668-7839

Rev. Robert Waddle, 1866, S. Hwy. 81, Jonesborough, TN 37659
(423) 753-5488

Rev. Floyd Watts, Rt. 1, Box 664, Candler, NC 28715
(704) 667-2342

Rev. David Wheeler, 2561 Chinquapin Road, Canton, NC 28716
(704) 235-8363

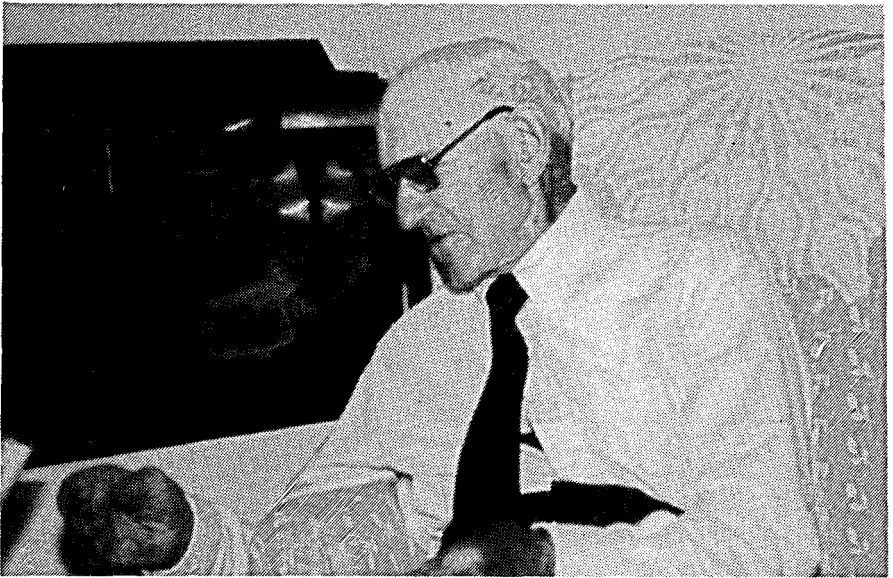
Rev. T. A. Wheeler, 162 Cold Creek Road, Canton, NC 28716
(704) 235-8148

OBITUARIES

E. P. (Esco) Fender departed this life on October 4, 1996 at the age of 69. He was a faithful member of Mt. O'Dale F.W.B. Church. He is greatly missed by his wife, two daughters, one son, six grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and a host of family and friends. He loved to live, but he also knew that to live was Christ, but to die was gain. "For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ, which is far better."

Although our hearts ache with pain, we realize that Christ had better things in store for our loving husband and father and that he is at rest in the arms of a heavenly father.

Mrs. Juanita Rice departed this life and went to be with the Lord on August 30, 1996. She was a faithful member of Dry Branch F.W.B. Church. She loved the Lord's house and was very concerned about keeping His house cleaned. She cleaned the church that morning, the last day of her life here on this earth, and God called her home that night. She will be missed very much by her family and friends.



Rev. Walter Andrew Wilson of Taylor, Michigan, died January 9, 1997 at the age of 97. A native of Madison County and a F.W.B. minister who traveled many miles to serve in rural churches in the Madison County area.

I knew Walter Wilson, one of the oldest members of our association. He was unselfish, kind, and loyal to the cause. He was a father, a farmer who put his hand to the plow to "work while it is yet day." He was also a preacher of the gospel, a humble "no compromise man".

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publishes salvation; that sayeth unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!" Isaiah 52:7. Rev. Wilson was a member of Shoal Hill F.W.B. Church for many years.

(written by Dorothy Payne)

CONSTITUTION

1. The Association shall be composed of delegates chosen and sent from each church.
2. The delegates chosen and sent shall be recommended by letter from the church to which they belong and shall include the minister and some of the most able members belonging to the church.
3. The Association when met and formed shall elect a moderator, assistant moderator and clerk.
4. The rules of decorum shall be read immediately after the Association is formed.
5. This Association will encourage a sound ministry, such as present Christ as an all sufficient Savior, having salvation possible to ever human being on the terms of the gospel which is freely offered to all.
6. Any minister in good standing, whether a delegate or not, may be invited to a seat and take part in the deliberations and his name be enrolled in our minutes.
7. The Association may appoint such committees as may be necessary for the expediting of business and every committee appointed to attend to any particular business shall report their proceedings in writing to the Association while in session and all reports made by the committee may be adopted by the body.
8. Any church can become a member of the Association by making application by letter or by delegates and adopting our Articles of Faith and Church Covenant.
9. The Association may withdraw from any church that becomes disorderly or refuses to be represented by letter or delegates.
10. The Association may withdraw from any church having a pastor either elected or acting of a different denomination.
11. The Association assumes no higher authority than an advisory council.
12. Ministers of Free-Will Baptist denomination, but of an other Association may Pastor our churches.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe that there is but one living, true and eternal God, the Father of whom are all things from everlasting to everlasting, glorious and immutable in all His attributes. 1 Cor. 8: 6, Isa 40: 28.
2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, the only begotten Son of God, born of Virgin Mary, whom God freely sent into this world, because of the great love wherewith He loved the world; and Christ as freely gave himself a ransom for all, tasting death for every man; who was buried and rose again the third day, and ascended into heaven, from whence we look for Him the second time in the clouds of heaven at the last day to judge both the quick and the dead. 1 Tim 2: 5-6; John 2: 2; Neb. 2: 9; St. John 3: 16; Rev. 1: 7; Acts 24:15.
3. We believe that there is one Holy Ghost, the precious gift of the Father through His dear son, unto the world, who quickeneth and draweth sinners home to God. St. John 16: 7,8; Acts 2: 4; Eph. 2: 1; Eph. 4: 4,6.
4. We believe that in the beginning God made man upright, and placed him in a State of glory without the least mixture of misery, from which he voluntarily, by transgression,

fell, and by that means brought on himself a miserable and mortal state subject to death. Gen. 2: 17, 3: 19.

5. We believe that God is not willing that any should perish; but that all should come to repentance and the knowledge of truth, that they might be saved; for which end Christ hath commanded the Gospel to be preached among all nations and every creature. Mark 16: 15; Luke 24: 47; John 3: 15-17; Tim. 2:4.

6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for want of a Christ who died for him, but as the Scripture has said, for denying the Lord that bought them; because they believe not in the name of the only begotten Son of God. Unbelief, therefore, being the cause why the just and righteous God of heaven will condemn the children of men; it follows against all contradiction that all men, at one time or other, are found in such a capacity as that through the grace of God they may be eternally saved. Acts 17: 30; Mark 6: 6; Heb. 3: 10; 1 John 5: 10.

7. We believe the whole scriptures are infallably true, and that they are the only rules of faith and practice. II Timothy 3: 16,17.

8. We believe in the doctrine of general Provision made to God in Christ for the benefit of all mankind, who repent and believe the Gospel. Luke 14: 16-20; Matt. 28: 19-29; Luke 13: 3-5; Luke 24: 47; Acts 3: 19; Mark 1: 15.

9. We believe that sinners are drawn to God, the Father by the Holy Ghost through Christ His Son, and that the Holy Ghost offers his divine aid to all the human family, so as they all might be happy, would they give place to his divine teachings; whereas, such who do not receive the divine impressions of His Holy Spirit, shall at a further day, own their condemnation just, and charge themselves with their own damnation, for willfully rejecting the offers of sovereign grace. Matt. 11: 27; St. John 6: 44; Ps. 1: 1; Tit. 2: 11-12; Jer. 22: 29.

10. We believe that men, not considered simply as men, but ungodly men, were of old ordained to condemnation; considered such who turn the grace of God into lasciviousness, denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ who brought them and therefore, shall bring upon themselves swift destruction; but we observe that they, and such Apostle saith because they receive not the love of the truth that they might be saved; therefore the indignation and wrath of God is upon every sole of man that does evil, living and dying therein; for there is no respect of persons with God. Jude 1: 4; II Peter 2: 1; Thes. 2: 11-12; Rom. 2: 9-11

11. We believe that all children dying in infancy, having not actually transgressed against the law of God, in their own persons are only subject to the first death, which was brought on them by the fall of the first Adam, and not that any one of them dying in that state, shall suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin, for such is the kingdom of God. I Cor. 15: 22; Matt. 18: 2-5; Mark 9: 36-37; Matt. 19: 14.

12. We believe that good works are the fruits of a saving faith, and that in the use of the means of grace, and not out of the use of those means, eternal life is promised to men. Rev. 22: 14-15; Isa. 1: 19-20; Matt. 7: 8; Jer. 6: 16; Luke 13: 34-35.

13. We believe that no man has any warrant in the Holy Scriptures for justification before God through his own works, power of ability which he has in and of himself, only as he by grace is made able to come to God, through Jesus Christ believing the righteousness of Jesus Christ to be imputed to all believers for their eternal acceptance with God. Rom. 4: 24; Acts 8: 20,21.

14. We believe that all things are foreseen in the wisdom of God, so that God knoweth

whatever can or cannot come to pass upon all supposed conditions, yet not as having decreed any persons to everlasting death or everlasting life, out of respect or mere choice, father than he has appointed the godly unto life and the ungodly, who die in sin, unto death. Heb. 4:13; Prov. 8:22-31; Matt 25: 31-46

15. We believe, as touching Gospel ordinances, in believers' baptism, laying on of the hands, receiving of the sacrament in bread and wine, washing the saint's feet, anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, fasting, praying, singing praise to God and public ministry of the Word, with every institution of the Lord, we shall find in the New Testament. Mark 16: 15-16; Acts 8: 17; Acts 19: 6; Luke 22:19; John 13: 5-17; Jas. 5:14.

16. We believe the Gospel mode of baptism is by immersion, and that believers are the only subject for baptism. Matt. 3: 16; Mark 1: 9; Acts 2: 28; Rom. 6: 4; Col. 2: 12.

17. We believe in the general resurrection of the dead and a final judgement at the last day. John 5: 28,29; II Cor. 5: 10.

18. We believe that happiness of the righteous is eternal and the torments of the wicked are endless. Matt. 25: 46.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having been brought, as we believe, by divine grace to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior and Preserver, we do now solemnly and joyfully covenant and agree, by God's help, to walk together in brotherly love.

We, therefore, enter into covenant as members of this church and as Christians that we will watch over each other in love, sharing together each other's joy and sorrows; that we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, nor omit the great duty of prayer for ourselves and others; that by divine assistance we will endeavor to bring up these under our care in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; that in all things we will strive to exemplify our profession by a corresponding practice to abstain from all sinful conformity to the world, to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; that we will abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage; that we will contribute cheerfully, according to our ability; to the support of the ministry; the expense of the church, the relief of the poor and the general spread of the Gospel.

BY-LAWS, MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

1. The regular meeting of this conference shall be held annually the day after the meeting of the association.
2. Each member shall report at the annual meeting, either in person or by written report, \$1.00 shall accompany each minister's report to merit necessary expenses of this organization.
3. Five members shall constitute a quorum at all regular or legal meetings.
4. The moderator may call a special session at any time on request of three members.
5. At each annual meeting there shall be elected an ordaining council whose duty shall be to examine candidates, grant licenses, conduct ordinations, etc., and report at each regular meeting.
6. No member shall serve as pastor of a church which does not enforce discipline, care for their pastor and contribute to other benevolent enterprises according to their ability.
7. No member shall meddle with the work of another or injure the reputation for usefulness, but watch over each other and help promote harmony and love among the membership.
8. Each member, not excused from age or infirmities, is expected to do something to advance the cause of Christ and make a full report at each regular meeting.
9. Membership in this body shall be proof of good standing in the ministry.
10. These by-laws may be amended by a vote of four-fifths majority at any annual meeting.
11. A minister will not be licensed or ordained in this conference if he owns a television.
12. If a minister misses three quarterly conferences in succession, he will be silenced until he makes restitution.
- 12B. If a minister breaks the by-laws of this conference, he must be investigated and if he fails to make restitution, he must turn in his credentials.
13. A man, having a call from God to preach the Gospel, after announcing his call must be given a dated letter of liberation from his church. At the end of one year the church must write a letter to the conference so he may obtain his license. After one year the investigating Committee will investigate his life before ordaining him to preach.
14. A minister must abide by the laws that are now in force if he remains in the

conference.

15. A minister must come in person to ask for a letter to go to another conference and must turn in all his credentials.

16. A minister will not be licensed or ordained in this Conference if he belongs to any secret organization or lodge.

17. When a Minister of another denomination desires to unite with the original Free Will Baptist, he first becomes a member of some Free Will Baptist Church, then in his case the proceedings are the same as those in ordaining a licentiate.

18. A minister will not be licensed or ordained if he engages in homosexual or professes to be a gay. Neither will a woman be licensed or ordained.

RESOLUTIONS

We believed in Congregational Government, the Church being the highest tribunal power ruled only by the vote of the majority of the active church members of the church that is involved.

CONSTITUTION, MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

1. This body shall be known as the Ministers' Conference of the French Broad Free Will Baptist Association.

2. This conference is formed under and by authority of the French Broad Association and shall be composed of licensed and ordained ministers.

3. It shall have entire jurisdiction over the ministry in said association, issuing licenses, prescribing qualifications for the ministry, conducting examinations and ordaining ministers, working for the most harmonious and effective ministry. Any persons having the call of God to preach His Word, shall be liberated by his church for one year before presenting himself to the ordaining council to be licensed. Each licensed minister shall be elected as pastor of a duly organized church of the regular Free Will Baptists, in this or some other association or conference, he may apply for ordination after having been licensed for one year.

4. The officers of this conference shall be a moderator and secretary-treasurer, who shall be elected annually and perform the duties usually performed by such officers.

5. This conference shall have the power to make such by-laws and other regulations as may be necessary for the performance of its duties.

6. This constitution may be amended at any annual meeting by a vote of four-fifths.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. The association shall be opened and closed by prayer.
2. There shall be no conversation by the members, one with another so as to interrupt business, while in session.
3. Every member speaking shall first rise and address the moderator.
4. No member shall interrupt a member while speaking.
5. We shall admit no other title while in session but that of "Brother".
6. Every member speaking shall attend to the subject under consideration.
7. No member shall speak more than twice on any one subject.
8. Every motion made and seconded shall be attended to unless withdrawn by the person who made it.
9. No members shall absent himself from the body without leave of the moderator.
10. On all motions made where the vote of the body is taken, a majority shall prevail.
11. The moderator shall have the same privilege to speak as any other members provided the chair is filled.
12. Any member transgressing the above rules shall be admonished by the moderator.
13. Not less than nine members shall constitute a quorum.

MEMBERSHIP TABLE

CHURCHES	Members Received	Experience & Baptism	Letter and Statement	Restoration	Lost	By Letter	Expulsions Erasure	Deaths	Increase	Decrease	Active Membership	Last Year's Active Membership	Time of Sunday Night Service
Dry Branch					1			1		1	22	23	7 P.M.
Ernestville	3	2	1		2		2		1		5	6	6 P.M.
Faith	3								3		35	32	5 P.M.
Grace											31	31	5 P.M.
Greggs Chapel											10	10	6 P.M.
Hyatt Creek	2		2						2		42	40	7 P.M.
Mt. O'Dale	5	2	3		2		2		3		46	43	6 P.M.
Rocky Branch					6	4		2		6	132	138	6 P.M.
Union Valley	2		2								20	35	6 P.M.
TOTALS	15	4	8		11	4	4	3	9	7	343	358	

FINANCIAL REPORT

CHURCHES	Pastors Support	Home Missions	Repairs	Other	Old Ministers Fund	Minute Fund	Value of Church Property
Dry Branch	2,348.80	2,934.21	0.00	435.10	100.00	50.00	75,000
Ernestville	2,321.61	2,984.27	809.49	280.84	25.00	15.00	35,000
Faith	3,250.00	3,839.00	142.00	350.00	200.00	80.00	50,000
Grace	5,730.96	650.00	838.91	3,628.13	395.80	50.00	
Greggs Chapel	3,669.45	1,775.00	0.00	1,404.00	50.00	50.00	35,000
Hyatt Creek	2,600.00	3,189.50	0.00	1,727.75	250.00	75.00	89,188
Mt. O'Dale	8,387.46	8,644.16	788.98	3,907.90	479.50	100.00	30,000
Rocky Branch	3,539.38	915.22	116.29	3,667.54	25.00	15.00	20,000
Union Valley	1,040.00	1,740.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00	20,000
TOTAL	32,887.66	26,671.36	2,695.67	15,401.26	1,525.30	450.00	354,188.00

†

NOTES

†

CHURCH LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION

We, the Free Will Baptist Church of _____

_____, send Christian salutation to The French Broad Association and the following delegates represent us:

_____, _____
 _____, _____
 _____, _____

STATISTICAL MEMBERSHIP TABLE

No. of members received _____; by experience and baptism _____
 by letter and statement _____; by restoration _____; no. of members
 lost _____; by letter _____; by expulsion and erasure _____;
 by death _____; total increase _____; or decrease _____;
 present active membership _____; last year's active membership _____;
 Sundays we have preaching _____
 No. of revivals _____; held by: _____
 No. of communion and feet-washing services: _____

OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor _____

Address _____

Clerk _____

Address _____

Pastor for next year _____

Address _____

Clerk for next year _____

Address _____

FINANCIAL REPORT

Pastors' Collection \$ _____

Home mission-local charity \$ _____

Church repairs and improvements \$ _____

Other purpose \$ _____

Old ministers' fund \$ _____

Value of Church property \$ _____

Food fund for Association \$ _____

Minute Fund \$ _____

SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICS

Superintendent _____

Address _____

Secretary _____

Address _____

No. of classes _____ ; No. of pupils _____ ; kind of literature use

_____ ; expenses \$ _____

MINISTERS' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
OF 199 _____ TO 199 _____

No. of churches pastored _____; No. of revivals conducted _____

No. of conversions _____; No. of sermons preached _____

No. of members received _____; No. baptised _____

No. of marriages _____; No. of funerals _____

Received for pastoral services.....\$ _____

Received for revival services.....\$ _____

Received for all other services.....\$ _____

Total \$ _____

Given personally to the cause.....\$ _____

No. homes visited _____; No. of homes prayed in _____

No. of sick visits made _____; No. of miles traveled _____

expenses \$ _____

Minister _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

